

SACRAMENTO RIVER CONSERVATION AREA

*c/o California Department of Water Resources
2440 Main Street
Red Bluff, Ca. 96080*



Denny Bungarz, Chairman
Ben Carter, Vice Chairman
Jane Dolan, Secretary/Treas.
Burt Bundy, Manager (530) 528-7411
Fax (530) 528-7422
bundy@water.ca.gov
Web page: www.sacramentoriver.ca.gov

SRCA NOTES

May, 2001

April 19, TAC Meeting

The meeting opened with self-introductions and public comment. Dave Gallo and Ron Adams, Dept. of Economics, CSU, Chico gave a presentation on the economic impact of public land acquisition and habitat restoration in Glenn County within the Sacramento River Conservation Area. It was noted that each county will be different and will present different scenarios. Stacy Cepello, DWR, discussed the definitions of the Inner River Zone in both Reach 1 and Reach 4. The language for Reach 1 was accepted by the Committee to be presented at the May 14th public workshop. There was some additional discussion and modification on Reach 4. Burt Bundy, SRCA Manager, read suggested new language defining the Sacramento River Conservation Area that would replace current language in the Handbook. One of the reasons for the new language is to try to reduce the fears of some that the entire conservation area is "targeted" for conversion. The definition is a preliminary draft subject to change. Tom Evans, Family Water Alliance, asked that the issue of "Safe Harbor" be placed on the next agenda. It was suggested that the committee have the appropriate party address the TAC on defining the term, as it is an extremely complex issue.

Burt updated the group on Hamilton City and the meeting held recently to update all interested stakeholders. He also noted a meeting with a representative from Congressman Ose's office to discuss possible funding for Woodson Bridge. Stillwater Science is working on the study of the gravel bar problem at the M&T/Llano Seco pumping plant and should be done in 2-3 weeks.

Marie Sullivan discussed the USF&WS biological opinion on the impact of riprap on seven sites that the Corps of Engineers is considering protecting. At issue are the impacts of this, and future bank protection projects, on the Delta Smelt, the Splittail, the Giant Garter Snake, and the Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle.

A committee was formed at the last TAC meeting to look at proposed modifications to language in the Handbook regarding bank stabilization and the impact on riparian habitat (pg.1-5). After discussion, it was agreed to modify the language; the change will be circulated and brought to the next Tac meeting.

April 26 SRCA Board Meeting

Chairman Denny Bungarz opened the meeting and introduced new Board member Don Anderson, landowner representative from Glenn County. The Chairman reported on the Executive Committee meeting held prior to the Board meeting. The Committee reviewed several of the "Issues to be Resolved" and it was determined that the TAC would develop guidelines on the "Good Neighbor Policy" issue. They also discussed "Safe Harbor" and will start with an informational presentation to the Board on this subject. A sub-committee will be formed to determine what people are looking for regarding a mitigation fund. Burt Bundy, SRCA Manager, discussed a recent meeting in Hamilton City. There were many questions and concerns but Bill Paris, HCCSD, stated there is consensus that the project is wanted and needed. Burt will be traveling to Washington the week of 4/30 and Chairman Bungarz distributed a letter from the Glenn County Board of Supervisors in support of this proposed project. There was consensus of the SRCA Board to continue support of the Hamilton City project as well. Burt also talked about the possibility of tying a Woodson Bridge proposal to federal funding through the Comprehensive Study or a Section 1135 Study. The DF&G is working with a landowner adjacent to the Moulton Weir Project addressing three issues of concern to the landowner. Chairman Dan Keppen reviewed the April 19th TAC meeting and introduced Marie Sullivan, who had reported to the TAC on the USF&WS riprap study. Marie updated the Board on the status – they are still negotiating with the Corps of Engineers and have proposed four different prudent alternatives; if one or more alternatives are implemented, there will be no jeopardy opinion. Scott Clemons, Wildlife Conservation Board, updated the group on four projects that are scheduled on their 5/18 agenda that includes Moulton-Weir. Sam Lawson, TNC, discussed acquisitions in Tehama County near Dairyville and an area north of the Colusa State Park. Ramon Vega, F&WS, reported on the status of the Comprehensive Conservation Plan and the Environmental Assessment document due out May 15 for 30-45 day public review. Stacy Cepello, DWR, gave a presentation on the mapping project identifying public land ownership within the Conservation Area. Stacy explained the difficult process of obtaining accurate and timely data to complete an undertaking like this.

SRCA NOTES UPDATE

A public informational workshop on the Inner River Zone definition in Reach 1 will be held on May 14th at the Cottonwood Community Center, Gaspoint Road, Cottonwood from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Patricia Clarke, Shasta County Supervisor, will open the meeting. Burt Bundy will give a brief history of the SB1086 program followed by presentations by Koll Buer and Stacy Cepello from Department of Water Resources, and Pete Rabbon from The Reclamation Board. The meeting will then be opened for public input.

SACRAMENTO RIVER CONSERVATION AREA BOARD/TAC MEETINGS

The next SRCA Board meeting will be held on May 24th at the Willows City Hall, Willows, at **4:00** p.m.

The next TAC meeting will be held on May 17th at the Willows City Hall, Willows, at **9:00** a.m.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. How many land acquisition or restoration projects has the Sacramento River Conservation Area done?

A. None—The SRCA has not acquired or restored any property. While the SRCA has the ability to receive funding for acquisitions or projects for such things as restoration, conservation easements or non-structural flood damage reduction projects, it has not applied for such funds. The SRCA Board has focused on coordinating planning efforts along the river, working with agencies, local jurisdictions, and landowners to provide assurances that projects have a positive effect for owners and neighbors. The acquisitions and restoration that have occurred along the Sacramento River are driven by other programs (CVPIA, CALFED, and the Sacramento River Refuge), and the SRCA Handbook provides principles and guidelines to help plan for these activities. These programs were in place before the SRCA was formed and are authorized to acquire more land in the area. Signatories of the SRCA Memorandum of Understanding have agreed to coordinate all projects within the Conservation Area with all interested parties.



SACRAMENTO RIVER CONSERVATION AREA
c/o California Department of Water Resources
2440 Main Street
Red Bluff, CA 96080

PRSRT STD
U.S.
POSTAGE
PAID
Red Bluff, CA
Permit No. 15

